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TURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Reports

of the

Medical Officer of Health

(James Cumming, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

and

Public Health Inspector and Housing Manager

(Walter L. Wardle,
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H., A.I.Hsg.)

FOR THE YEAR 1956

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health, 1956

Council Offices,
Bromley Cross,
Near Bolton.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District of Turton.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual Report for the year 1956. The general health of the community is satisfactory.

The first section of the Report deals with vital statistics, and from these it will be seen that the infantile mortality rate of 6 is lower than the rate for England and Wales, which is 23.8. The average for the past 5 years in Turton is 26.

The incidence of infectious disease was much lower than in 1955, and whooping cough accounted for a very high percentage of the cases notified. The only deaths from notifiable infectious diseases were those occurring from acute pneumonia.

Heart disease still continues to be the greatest cause of death. The adjusted death rate from all causes, 15.3, is higher than last year's, and is higher than that for the whole of the country (11.7). There were no deaths recorded from maternal causes, and there have not been any for seven years.

The number of deaths occurring from malignant causes was the same this year (26) as in 1955.

The adjusted birth rate is higher than that of 1955 and is higher than that averaged during the past five years (12.3).

Diphtheria was again absent from the numbers of notified infectious diseases and once more proves the efficacy of a high percentage of immunisation undertaken by the local Health Authority.

The ambulance and hospital services under the new arrangements continue to work satisfactorily.

In conclusion, I have pleasure once again to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members for their continued support and encouragement in Public Health matters.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES CUMMING,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The District covers an area of 17,335 acres.

The population was, according to the preliminary census of 1951, returned as 10,950, and the last Registrar General's estimate of the resident population was 11,010.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956 was 4,128.

The rateable value was £105,068, and a penny rate yields a sum of £394.

The social conditions and standard of living are equal to the average of a mainly artisan or working class population.

EMPLOYMENT

The chief employment is in Textile Manufacture, Bleachworks, Dyeworks and Stone Quarries, Paintworks, Saw Mills and Farming.

Men employed at the Stone Quarries are subject to Silicosis. They undergo a medical examination periodically by Government Inspectors, and they get compensation if they are found to be suffering from Silicosis.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	147	71	76
Illegitimate	8	6	2
Total	155	77	78
Stillbirths	2	0	2
Deaths	189	94	95

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, mid-1956:—

Crude	14.1
Adjusted	15.8
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	13

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population:—

Crude	17.2
Adjusted	15.3

Deaths from puerperal causes:—	*Deaths*	*Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births*
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal causes	Nil	Nil
Total Maternity Mortality	Nil	Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 1 M.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	6

Neo-Mortality:—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	6

Mortality Rates per 1,000 est. population:—

Respiratory T.B.	0.18
Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	2.36

(Items 10 to 15 incl., page 4)

Population: For:—
Birth Rate } 11,010
Death Rate }

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 population	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1956	155	14.1	189	17.2	2	13	Nil	Nil	1	6	1	6
1955	132	12.1	172	15.8	6	43	Nil	Nil	4	30	4	30
1954	136	12.5	192	17.6	2	14	Nil	Nil	4	29	2	15
1953	143	13.2	163	15.0	2	14	Nil	Nil	1	7	Nil	Nil
1952	120	11.1	174	16.0	4	32	Nil	Nil	5	42	3	25
1951	139	12.8	188	17.3	2	14	Nil	Nil	3	22	2	14
1950	146	13.3	178	16.2	3	20	Nil	Nil	8	55	5	34

The Registrar-General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which should be used when comparing the vital statistics of one area with another. The figures for this area are as follows:—

Adjusted { Death Rate (comparability factor, 0.89)
Live Birth Rate (comparability factor, 1.12)

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR TURTON, LANCASHIRE AND ENGLAND AND WALES

	Per 1,000 of Population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Turton:— Average, 1951-1955	12.3	16.3	Nil	26
1956	14.1	17.2	Nil	6
Lancashire, 1956..	15.2	12.7	0.58	27
England and Wales, 1956	15.7	11.7	0.56	23.8

CAUSE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

The following table shews the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Turton residents. This information does not include non-civilian deaths.

Cause of Death	*Male*	*Female*
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3. Syphlitic disease	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0

	Cause of Death	*Male*	*Female*
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0
8.	Measles	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	0
11.	,, ,, lung, bronchus	2	0
12.	,, ,, breast	0	2
13.	,, ,, uterus	0	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	9
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	0	0
16	Diabetes	3	0
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	17
18.	Coronary disease, angina	10	8
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	0
20.	Other heart disease	16	29
21.	Other circulatory disease	4	6
22.	Influenza	0	1
23.	Pneumonia	2	3
24.	Bronchitis	7	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	0	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	2	0
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	2	0
34.	All other accidents	1	5
35.	Suicide	3	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	0	0
	All causes	94	95

INFANTILE MORTALITY

There was one death of an infant under one year of age, three less than last year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 6 per 1,000 live births as compared with 30 the previous year. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 23.8 The cause of death of the infant is given below.

Sex	*Age*	*Cause of death*
Male	3 days	Congenital heart disease

General Provision of Health Services in Turton

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These facilities are available at the following:—

Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.
Public Health Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Preston.
Public Health Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Bolton.
Melling & Ardern, Analytical Chemists, Hr. Broughton, Nr. Manchester.

Sputum examinations for Tuberculosis are still carried out by the Lancashire County Council under the Tuberculosis scheme.

The following specimens were examined during the year:—

	Public Hlth Lab. M/c	*Preston Lab.*	*Melling & Arden*	*Bolton*
Diphtheria Swabs: Throat	0	0	0	0
Nose	0	0	0	0
Dysentery and Typhoid—Fæces	0	0	0	4
Milk for T.B.	0	0	0	12
Milk for B.Coli	0	16	0	0
Milk for Br. Abortus	0	0	0	11
Water—Bacteriological	0	0	0	3
Chemical	0	0	5	0
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	4

AMBULANCE SERVICES

These services are now provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the local Health Authority (in this case the Lancashire County Council), who have made arrangements with the Bolton Corporation to serve the district.

The service will provide for the following types of cases:—

(*a*) Emergency Services—That is to say, persons meeting with accidents or suffering from sudden illness wherever this may take place, and maternity patients.

(*b*) Non urgent cases who require transport to hospital or from one hospital to another or to out patient departments and clinics, or from hospital to their homes, and cases of a similar nature.

(*c*) Infectious cases—The ambulance service will convey to and from hospitals all patients suffering from infectious disease.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

From the 4th July, 1948, the hospitals were transferred to the control of the Minister of Health through Regional Hospital Boards. All hospitals are, therefore, available for the use of the district.

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of Tuberculosis are admitted to various sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board. This scheme is administered by that Board and the Lancashire County Council; and a close liaison is maintained between the Tuberculosis Officer and the Department.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1956 (after correction subsequently made either by the notifying medical practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital). The table also includes particulars of the total deaths due to infectious diseases.

Disease	Cases notified and accepted										Total deaths
	Total cases at all ages	Years									
		Under 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	over 65	
Smallpox	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Scarlet Fever	3	–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	–
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
Measles (excluding German Measles)	17	0	3	4	8	2	0	–	–	–	–
Whooping Cough	36	1	9	7	17	1	–	1	–	–	–
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	2	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Meningococcal Infection	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Acute Poliomyelitis:—											
Non-Paralytic	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–
Paralytic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Encephalitis Lethargica	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dysentery	2	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Erysipelas	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–
Malaria:—											
Contracted in this country	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Contracted abroad	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Food Poisoning	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
TOTALS	66	1	12	11	28	7	2	2	3	0	5

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases (excluding tuberculosis) during the past five years:—

Disease	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	12	9	2	2	3
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	146	34	65	97	17
Whooping Cough	8	51	7	17	36
Acute Pneumonia	8	6	5	4	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infections	2	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis:—					
Paralytic	—	—	—	3	—
Non Paralytic	—	—	—	1	2
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	2	2	3	2
Dysentery	—	11	7	18	2
TOTALS	178	113	88	146	65

Notified cases of Infectious Diseases during the year. Wards:—

Disease	Bel-mont	Egerton	Eagley	Bromley Cross	Brad-shaw	Edg-worth	Chapel-town	Total
Scarlet Fever	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	2	4	2	2	6	0	17
Whooping Cough	0	0	5	7	5	16	3	36
Erysipelas	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Tuberculosis:—								
Pulmonary	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	4
Non-Pulmonary ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Pneumonia	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Poliomyelitis:—								
Paralytic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Paralytic ..	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Dysentery	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Typhoid Fever	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	1	2	14	12	12	26	3	70

DIPHTHERIA

There were no notified cases during the year, which means that there has only been one notified case of diphtheria in the past seven years.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The scheme for immunising children up to 15 years is being vigorously proceeded with and under it the following children have been treated either at the various schools and Clinics, at the Council Offices, or at my surgery, and in this connection I appreciate very much the co-operation given by headmasters and teachers in the area, in making the scheme known.

During the year the following children were immunised with A.P.T.:—

Under 5 years	Between 5 and 15 years
108	35

In addition, 14 booster injections were given.

The maintenance of a high percentage is most desirable, and I hope that it may be kept by continuing to make the scheme and its benefits more widely known by advertising in every possible way and with the help of the Clinics and the Health Visitor.

DYSENTERY

During the year 1955 an outbreak of dysentery occurred similar to that of 1954 in this and adjoining areas. Fortunately, the type of infection was mild and the cases soon responded to treatment, and in the year under review (1956) there were only two cases recorded.

TUBERCULOSIS

The new cases and mortality were as follows:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0–1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1–5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5–10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10–15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15–20	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
20–25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25–35	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35–45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45–55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55–65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards ..	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
	4		0		2		0	

All cases of tuberculosis are visited. The houses and premises are inspected, the social and domiciliary conditions investigated and auxiliary assistance is given when necessary. Insanitary conditions are remedied if found.

The houses are fumigated when it is required and all necessary measures are taken in order to prevent the spreading of infection.

Pathological specimens which require bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The general health services available for the district are:—

Maternity and Child Welfare	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. TUESDAYS, 2 p.m.—4 p.m. Walsh's Institute, Harwood. 2nd and 4th WEDNESDAYS in month, 2 p.m.—4 p.m. Belmont. 1st Monday in month, 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. WEDNESDAYS—FORTNIGHTLY, 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. TUESDAYS 10 a.m.—12 noon.
Ophthalmic Session	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. ALTERNATE FRIDAYS, 10 a.m.—12 noon.
Orthopædic	The Mount, Station Road, Kearsley (by appointment).
Dental	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. THURSDAYS 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Tuberculosis	Health Visitor (Tuberculosis): Mrs. H. Longson, 19/23, Darley Street, Farnworth.
Speech Therapy	Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross. WEDNESDAY morning, 9 a.m.—12 noon (by appointment)

Hospital Services:—	Bolton Royal Infirmary. Tel. No. 5250.
(1) General	Bolton District General Hospital. Tel. No. Bolton 5890.
(2) Infectious Diseases	Hulton Lane Isolation Hospital. Tel. No. Bolton 3803. Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury. Tel. No. Bury 116.
(3) Maternity	Bolton District General Hospital. Tel. No. Bolton 5890. Haslam Maternity Home, Chorley New Road, Bolton. Tel. No. Bolton 487. Havercroft Maternity Home, Victoria Road, Bolton. Tel. No. Bolton 268. Heaton Grange Maternity Home, Chorley New Road, Bolton. Tel. No. Bolton 3431.

Procedure for booking maternity accommodation is as follows:—

Bolton District Gen. Hospital	For persons not resident in Bolton, application must be made through the Divisional Health Offices, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Maternity Homes	Application must be made to the Sister in charge of the Home to which admission is desired, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays to Fridays.

Out-patient Clinics:—

General	Bolton Royal Infirmary.—New patients must have a note from their Medical Attendant and prior appointments must be made through the Appointments Office (Bolton 6789). 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays; 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturdays.
Tuberculosis	Civic Centre, Bolton.—Mondays to Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. (New patients must have a note from their Medical Attendant).
Venereal Diseases Clinic:	Civic Centre, Bolton. MALES 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. each week day; 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. FEMALES Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Emergencies	Casualty Department, Bolton Royal Infirmary.
Ambulances	To obtain an ambulance ring BOLTON 3101 (Ambulance Station, Black Horse Street, Bolton).
Midwives	Mrs. G. Whittle, 262, Turton Road, Bradshaw. (Tel. No. Eagley 428).
District Nurses	Miss E. Ainsworth, 462, Darwen Road, Bromley Cross. Mrs. M. Oley, 27, Oaks Avenue, Bradshaw.
Health Visitor and School Nurse	Nurse Kay, c/o Health Centre, Chapeltown Road, Bromley Cross.
Home and Domestic Helps	The Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.
Children's Officer	Mrs. Jackson, 65, Seymour Street, Radcliffe. Tel. Radcliffe 2909.
Registrar of Births and Deaths	Council Offices, Bromley Cross. Hours of attendance: MONDAY. and WEDNESDAY 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. THURSDAY afternoon, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. FRIDAY, 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Vaccination	Patient's own Doctor or Medical Officer of Health at the Council Offices, Bromley Cross—WEDNESDAYS, 11.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Diphtheria Immunisation	Patient's own Doctor or Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, Council Offices, Bromley Cross. WEDNESDAYS 11.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

It was necessary to request authority for the removal of one person to Hospital who was in urgent need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act and the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951. The day before the Order became operative the person was removed by the Hospital Officer dealing with mental defectives.

This Act gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify that, in the case of a person to whom section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary in their opinion that he should be removed without delay from the premises in which he is residing, an application for a removal order may be made immediately to the appropriate magistrates. Any order made under these provisions is valid for a period not exceeding three weeks.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Public Health Inspector and Housing Manager, 1956

Council Offices,
Bromley Cross,
Near Bolton.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Turton.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my report for the year 1956.

The general form of Annual Reports do not vary from year to year, but a study of the report will shew the volume of work undertaken in the Health Department.

As last year, new legislation continually appears with the emphasis on Housing, Food Hygiene, and Clean Air.

Domestic smoke, so long pushed into the background, now receives its share of attention, but only the full co-operation of householders, officials and fuel merchants can achieve that measure of success envisaged by the Beaver Committee.

With regard to the scheme for the renovation of the older type of property in which grant aid can be given, it is disappointing that very few owners of tenanted property have taken advantage of this scheme. Owner/occupiers have displayed great interest and many have obtained grant aid. It is hoped that Rent increases allowed by the Rent Act will enable owners to carry out regular maintenance to give at least a dry house and encourage them to consider improvements and install amenities.

I respectfully offer my apologies for the lateness of the report, which is due to circumstances beyond my control.

In conclusion, I would tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their unfailing support and kind consideration, and to the Officials who have given me their willing co-operation at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

WALTER L. WARDLE,

Public Health Inspector & Housing Manager.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is mainly secured from the Bolton Corporation Waterworks. It is of good quality, is a constant supply, and is sufficient in quantity for the parts of the district where the supply reaches.

There is occasional liability to lead solvency, due to the peaty character of the gathering ground. Samples are periodically submitted for analysis, and every possible precautionary method is adopted by the Bolton Corporation to maintain its purity.

The number of dwellings supplied from the public mains direct to the house is 3,759.

Fifteen houses in the Bradshaw district get their water from the Irwell Valley Water Board as they are situated near the Bury water mains.

The remainder are, at the moment, obliged to obtain their supply from shallow wells and springs. Some of these supplies, regarding quality and quantity, are good, but the majority are poor. Constant efforts are made to improve these private supplies.

SAMPLING (WATER)

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL

Samples were obtained for analysis and examination from private water supplies used for potable purposes at various premises in the district.

In one case, on sampling the well water to a country house, samples proved to be unsatisfactory. Some improvements were done to the pipe lines. Subsequent samples were still unsatisfactory and the supply was abandoned. A new supply was obtained from the public mains.

In a second case, involving the well water to a farmhouse, the well was found to be grossly contaminated with organisms of sewage and allied origin. The supply was abandoned and a new well constructed.

In a third case the well supply to a private house was inconsistent in quality. This was abandoned and a new supply laid to an existing main.

In other cases repair or renewal of supply lines have proved helpful and improved the quality.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewage from the Eagley and Egerton Wards was conveyed to the Eagley Sewage Works. The works had a capacity of 120,000 gallons normal dry weather flow per day. These works have now ceased to function and the sewage taken by a main sewer for treatment at Bolton.

The sewage from Belmont Ward is conveyed to the Belmont Sewage Works, and treated by septic tanks and cinder filtration. These works are over 50 years old and require replacement with modern apparatus. Plans, however, have been submitted in which these works will be completely redesigned and rebuilt, but the decision as to commencement rests with the Regional Sewage Board. The works are normally capable of treating 21,469 gallons per day, the approximate yearly flow being 13 million gallons.

Routine inspection, testing, repair and reconstruction of the drainage and sewerage system within the district continues to be done. During the year many properties have been provided with modern drainage systems in lieu of insanitary privy middens.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation at the end of the year, so far as can be reasonably ascertained, consist of:—

3,505 fresh water closets	287 pail closets
860 waste water closets	3,967 galvanised ashbins
204 dry ashpits	196 privy middens
140 cesspools and septic tanks	16 trough closets

Some of the above cesspools are badly constructed and insanitary; efforts are being made to eradicate these and provide properly constructed septic tanks and filters.

The following is a list of the conversions and installations carried out during the year:—

	During 1956	During 1951/55
Privy closets to fresh water closets	5	25
Privy closets to pail closets	3	12
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	22	160
Pail closets to fresh water closets	7	35
Number of trough closets to fresh water closets	0	10
Houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles	53	206

During the year 2 additional fresh water closets were provided in existing properties and 74 fixed in new houses.

Number of waste water closets found choked, 121.

The conversion of waste water closets and privies to fresh water closets is very slow due to the limited amount of grant available which only allows of approximately 25 to 30 of these insanitary conveniences being replaced by modern facilities.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Total number of visits (including Housing) during 1956	1,996
Number of re visits	1,258
,, ,, Inspections of Houses	477
,, ,, ,, ,, Dairies	28
,, ,, ,, ,, Schools	11
,, ,, ,, for Rats and Mice	144
,, ,, ,, of Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Shops	445
,, ,, Visits re Drainage and Sewerage	157
,, ,, ,, ,, Vermin	3
,, ,, Inspections of Workshops, Factories	40
,, ,, ,, ,, Restaurants, Kitchens and Bakehouses, etc.	49
,, ,, ,, ,, Licensed Premises	21
,, ,, ,, ,, Shops	18
,, ,, ,, ,, Caravans	37
,, ,, ,, re Water Supplies	35
,, ,, Visits re Foodstuffs	91
,, ,, ,, ,, Tips and Refuse Disposal, etc.	99
,, ,, ,, ,, Infectious Diseases	28
,, ,, Rooms Disinfected	17
,, ,, Complaints Investigated	197
,, ,, Visits re Milk Sampling	28
,, ,, ,, ,, Smoke Abatement	32
,, ,, Miscellaneous Visits	118
,, ,, Visits to Baths	90

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Periodical inspections when possible have been made of the Rivers and Streams for sources of pollution. No serious pollutions were found. Where required, inspections and visits are also made in conjunction with the Rivers Board Inspector.

SHOPS ACTS

Supervision of Shops to prevent breach of the provisions of the above Acts is exercised. During the year 18 inspections of all premises coming within the above Acts were made.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

In 1943 the Infestation Order came into force, and the Ministry of Food set up a Departmental Directorate of Infestation Control. This Order reinforced and extended the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, giving Local Authorities some financial assistance, but principally effecting a nation wide attack by scientific methods on rats and mice.

During the year under review investigation and disinfestation has proceeded steadily.

Two complete treatments of the Council's sewers, and four treatments of tips and buildings have been undertaken. The results corroborate the findings of previous years, namely, that the degree of infestation in the sewers is exceedingly small and occurs at storm overflows. This is probably due to the sewers being mainly of small bore and nearly always running at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ bore.

SEWER TREATMENT

Treatment No.	Bait and poison used	No. of Manholes in system	No. of Manholes baited	Test baits	No. of poison takes	Estimated kill
1	Bread Mash and arsenious oxide..	265	226	15	60	174
2	Sausage rusks and zinc phosphide..	265	151	17	35	90
		530	377	32	95	264

Visits are also paid to private properties, business premises, farms, etc., for the purpose of eradicating rats and mice.

SURFACE INFESTATIONS—MICE. 46 premises visited and treated.

SURFACE INFESTATIONS—RATS

	Premises visited	Inspections	Treatments
Local authority	23	94	30
Private dwellings	224	477	151
Business premises	12	35	13
Agricultural property	30	44	—

The following shews the treatments carried out on the tips.

TREATMENT OF TIPS—RATS

Treatment No.	Bait and poison used	No. of points baited	Estimated kill
1	Sausage rusk and zinc phosphate	142	120
2	Sausage rusks and Warfarin..	60	60
3	Bread mash and arsenic	50	70
		252	250

Poisonous gas was also used in the treatment of 49 holes or runs made by rats.

SUMMARY OF RATS KILLED

Sewer	264
Properties	205
Tips	250
Totals	719

Re-treatments will be vigorously proceeded with.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Smoke observations were taken during the year. Where excessive emissions of industrial smoke have been noticed the premises were visited and the Management interviewed. The chief cause at the present time is the use of unsuitable and poor quality fuel, combined with poor methods of stoking. There are only three firms which have given cause for serious complaint in the type and quantity of smoke emitted from the factory chimney. At one firm the plant has been modernised and oil-fired boilers installed together with a heavy electrical loading from the mains supply. At the time of writing the second firm is installing modern grates and equipment which it is hoped will comply with the Clean Air Act.

Taking the area as a whole, the problem is related to individual chimneys and not districts.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	M/c line No.	No. on Register	Number of		
			Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities . .	1	12	15	2	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority . .	2	68	25	4	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	–	80	40	6	0

2.—CASES IN WHICH **DEFECTS** WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Found	Remedied	Referred		
				To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	–	0	–
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	–	–	,	–	–
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) . .	6	–	–	–	–	–
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	1	1	,	–	–
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	1	1	–	–	–
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—						
(*a*) Insufficient	9	0	0	–	–	–
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective . .	10	3	3	–	1	–
(*c*) Not separate for sexes . .	11	–	–	–	–	–
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	12	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	60	7	7	–	1	–

Notices of 7 outworkers have been received from Bolton Corporation Health Department during 1956 under the provisions of the Factory Act. These premises are suitable for the purpose, and are visited periodically.

TENTS AND VANS, ETC., USED AS DWELLINGS

During the year 16 applications were made under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to station movable dwellings in the area and 14 applications were granted subject to conditions. Three were removed voluntarily from the district.

Eleven of the caravans were stationed in this area previous to 1956 and the applications were for renewal of the licence. Five of the licences were for caravans newly sited in the area.

Inspections are made from time to time to ascertain if the conditions of licences are being complied with.

There were no cases of infectious disease notified or detected in any tent or van during the year.

Several camping sites have been utilized for short periods (Girl Guides and Scouts, etc.), and the sites so used are kept under observation.

THE SCHOOLS

There are 11 schools in the district which are periodically inspected. Water supply to all these schools is satisfactory but the closet accommodation to one of the schools is in need of conversion from the obsolete type at present in use to that of the modern fresh water closets.

These unsatisfactory arrangements have been brought to the notice of the Education Authorities concerned and work has been proposed to remedy these unsatisfactory conditions. Unfortunately, this work is constantly being postponed.

The milk delivered to the schools during 1956 was either tuberculin tested or pasteurised.

No school was closed during the year for infectious diseases.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There is a public swimming bath at Egerton owned by the Turton Urban District Council. The bath has a capacity of 24,000 gallons, which is filtered and chlorinated every four hours by Bell's filtration plant. The water is tested daily and sampled regularly. It is desirable to amend the dressing accommodation so as to attract more adult swimmers.

These baths are now regularly used by the Education Authorities for the school children during seven months of the year. At the end of the year the attendances were again higher both for slipper and plunge baths than any previous year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection and disposal of household and trade refuse is now carried out entirely by direct labour.

The abolition of ashpits, which are insanitary relics of the past, receives constant attention. During the year 53 bins have been provided in lieu of fixed receptacles.

Trade refuse from shops, works, etc., is collected for a nominal sum.

Refuse is tipped at certain sites in the district, such as disused quarries. These sites are fairly well removed from the nearest habitation.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year 1956, shewing a comparison for the years 1943 and 1955.

	1954	1955	1956
Dry ashpits emptied	838	703	617
Privy ashpits emptied	626	567	517
Cesspools	11	18	12
Ashbins emptied	105,019	108,943	113,784
Pails emptied	13,279	14,269	14,451
Trade waste:—			
Bins (fish, offal, etc.)	25	10	8
Miscellaneous waste removed	14 tons	12 tons	15 tons
Total refuse tipped	5,608 tons	5,829 tons	6,050 tons
Number of new bins issued	210	205	115
Number of new pails issued	11	10	24

SALVAGE OF MATERIALS

The continued demand for raw materials has rendered the salvate of all usable materials of the utmost importance, and in order to meet this urgent and vital need, every endeavour is now being made to recover, reclaim and market salvage materials without cost to the rate fund.

How far this is successful will be seen from the following figures:—

Material	*Weight collected* tons	cwts.	qrs.	*Sold for* £	s.	d.
Paper	76	17	2	551	10	7
Kitchen waste	41	10	0	160	18	0
TOTAL	118	7	2	£711	18	7
Expenses				219	0	0
Credit balance				£492	18	7

From 1948 to 1956 we have recovered and sold £5,825 of salvage, and which has shown a credit balance to the Council of £3,845. It will be realised that the demand for waste paper is constantly varying and at the present time this demand is less than the quantity being salvaged. Accordingly, the collections are being slightly curtailed.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies Act, 1944, and the Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949, became operative on the 1st October, 1949.

These Acts transferred the responsibility of clean milk production and the granting of designated milk licences from the local authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Local Authorities are left with the distribution side of milk only, including sampling for chemical and bacteriological examination.

Turton has always been a large milk producing area and the Health Committee have rightly encouraged the highest standards in dairy and cowshed construction and clean milk production, which has been helped by regular and personal contact with the farmers concerned by your Inspector.

Regarding the delivery of kits of milk some farmers still use the open milk float in spite of the Regulations and apparently will continue to do so until the district is declared a "specified area" under the Act of 1950. This is being done in April, 1958.

There were no cases of anthrax.

There was a report of Br. Abortus in the milk delivered from a farm in Turton. The cow was, after milk sampling, separated from the herd and eventually sold. The whole of the milk was heat-treated during the period of investigation.

MILK SUPPLY

TUBERCLE BACILLI IN MILK

During the year there were two cases of tubercle bacilli found in the samples taken for examination. The infected animals were subsequently destroyed.

I am indebted to the Chief Public Health Inspector, Bolton, for the information that 23 samples of milk obtained in the Bolton area from farmers producing in Turton, were examined for B. Tuberculosis.

SCHOOL MILK

Eight samples of milk were taken from the schools in the Turton area. These samples were examined and found to be free from B. Tuberculosis.

All the milk supplied to the schools is either tuberculin tested or pasteurised.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of registered distributors operating from:—

(*a*) Own dairies in the district	3
(*b*) Dairy farms in the district	1
(*c*) Premises outside the district	12

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1956 in respect of:

(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk 3

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK REGULATIONS, 1949/53

No. of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" Milk:

Pasteurising plants 0
Sterilising plants 0

Retail distributors:
(*a*) "Pasteurised" 25
(*b*) "Sterilised" 25

RAW MILK

Bacteriological examinations:—
No. of samples, 39. No. satisfactory, 37. Unsatisfactory (Br. Abortis), 2.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are four private slaughterhouses in the district, which are distributed in the following wards:—

Bradshaw	Eagley	Edgworth	Egerton		Total
1	1	1	1	=	4

Owing to provisions of the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order, 1940, no slaughtering took place, with the exception of cases where licences were granted by the Ministry of Food for the slaughtering of livestock for home consumption, until the 1st July, when the foregoing Order was rescinded. The Council subsequently licensed four private slaughterhouses in order to allow some facilities in the area which is situate some miles distant from the nearest abattoir. Every animal killed is inspected, and the following carcases, with all organs and offal, were seen and inspected:—

535 cattle other than cows; 1 cow; 1 calf; 1018 sheep and lambs, and 9 pigs.

The following meat was condemned as being unfit for human consumption:—

415 lbs. liver and edible offal; 109 lbs. meat.

SWINE FEVER

There were three premises placed under restriction during the year. The effected pigs were disposed of by incineration and the premises disinfected.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

7 lbs. peas
6 lbs. corned beef
140 lbs. minced shin beef
65 lbs. gammon
5½ lbs. luncheon meat

During the year 192 visits were made to butchers' shops, slaughterhouses, miscellaneous food shops and food preparation premises which were found to be kept in conformity with Regulations.

SAMPLING, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

I give below details of samples obtained under the provisions of the above Act in the Urban District of Turton during 1956.

A total of 61 samples was obtained, consisting of 41 samples of milk (including 1 sample of Channel Islands Milk) and 20 others, comprising:—

1 Sulphadamidine Tablets B.P.
3 Bacon
2 Barley
2 Ice Cream
1 Blancmange Powder
3 Bicarbonate of Soda
2 Cocoa
1 Pork Sausage
2 Parrish's Food
2 Olive Oil
1 Beef Sausage

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst, and, with the exception of those listed below, were reported to be genuine:—

Sample No.	*Type*	*Result of Analysis*	*Action Taken*
N. 5974	Pork Sausage	Meat content 62%	Vendor interviewed
N. 5978	Milk	Freezing point indicates the presence of 0.8% extraneous water	Vendor cautioned and further samples
N. 6498	Beef Sausage	Contained 120 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned

FOOD PREMISES AND REGISTRATION

	No.
General grocers and provision dealers	53
Greengrocers and fruiterers	8
Fishmongers (all combined with other trades)	
Meat shops	29
Bakers and/or confectioners	39
Fried fish shops	6
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, etc.	24
Licensed premises, clubs, restaurants, etc.	38
Others	4

No. of food premises by type registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, or under local Acts:—

Fish and chip shops	6
Cooked meats	15
Ice cream	16

Food Poisoning

Total notifications	1
Total number of outbreaks	1

The above minor outbreak was related entirely to an outbreak in Bury where a manufacturer sold his products to retailers and the public in many districts. The causative organism was Salmonella-typhi-murium and the vehicle of infection was vanilla sandwich cake with custard filling. The case fully recovered.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

There were no exclusions under the provisions of these regulations, from taking part in or handling in any way the milk production at a farm.

HOUSING. CONDITIONS

Activities during the year in this important sphere of public health work have accelerated due to the continued neglect of property repairs and the unwillingness of owners to carry out these repairs because of costs and the restriction in the amount of rent that can be charged.

The tables below give particulars of action taken.

Number of houses of all classes	4,128
Number of council houses completed	24
Number of council flats completed	4
Number of private dwellings erected	40

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

1.	(*a*) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	390
	(*b*) Number of inspections made for this purpose	458
2.	Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
3.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	291

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 275

3. Action under Statutory Power during the year:—

(*a*) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice:

(*a*) By owners 25

(*b*) By local authority in default of owner 0

(*b*) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings accepted.. 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of formal or informal procedure 5

(*c*) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(*a*) (1) Number of houses overcrowded at end of year 2

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 3

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 18

(*b*) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year 0

(*c*) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 8

5. Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants:—

(*a*) (1) Number of Schemes submitted:

(*a*) By private individuals 36

(*b*) By the local authority 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses affected 36

(*b*) (1) Number of schemes approved:

(*a*) Of private individuals 33

(*b*) Of the local authority 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses affected 36

(3) Number of additional separate dwellings provided 0

(*c*) Work completed 45

Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949, is being administered in the district and 60 private properties have been made fit by the owners after loans have been advanced by the Council.

Approximately four years ago the Council made me responsible for the purposes of Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949, in which moneys can be loaned for the repair, improvement, alteration, acquisition, construction and enlarging of houses and the conversion of buildings into houses; and some three years for the purposes of Section 20 (as amended) of the Housing Act, 1949, respecting grants towards the costs of approved modernisation of old property.

A great deal of work under these two headings has been accomplished which is having its effect on the re-housing programme by lessening the numbers of property which were considered as unfit for habitation.

Up to the time of writing 145 cases have been dealt with for grant aid, and 80 for loans under Section 4.

INSECT PESTS

Insect pests found in houses and other premises include many species. Advice and help in methods of control and extermination are given and insecticide, including D.D.T., is available.

DISINFESTATION (BED BUGS)

Particulars of action taken in 1953:—

No. of houses found to be infested:

(*a*) Council houses 0

(*b*) Other houses 3

No. of houses disinfested:

(*a*) Council houses 0

(*b*) Other houses 3

Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs:

Stripping of wallpaper, thoroughly spraying walls and ceilings with insecticide. Repeated after seven days; bedsteads, springs, etc., treated with insecticide. All defective plaster hacked off and made good.

State name of fumigant or insecticide used and efficiency thereof:

Parafogs—D.D.T.
Killgercide, containing 5 per cent D.D.T.
Rodescu, containing 5 per cent D.D.T. and pyrethrum.

Method employed for ensuring that belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removed to Council houses:

Inspection of belongings and spraying as above if such were required.

Is work of disinfestation carried out by local authority or by a contractor?

(*a*) By Council on their own property.

(*b*) In other cases, owner or occupier is provided with material at cost or the work is done on signed order by the Council workmen. Advice is always given by the Public Health Inspector.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS

The chief requirements of the district are, in my opinion:—

(1) Abolition of ashpits and privies.

(2) Extension of public sewers and water mains.

(3) Provision of public conveniences at suitable points.

(4) The paving and making good of back streets.

(5) Making fit and bringing up to a satisfactory standard of the partially unfit house.

(6) Clearance of the remaining completely unfit houses.

(7) Completion of alteration and amendment to the sanitary accommodation at one school.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY